

**METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR THE DETECTION
OF BACTERIAL SPECIES**

ABSTRACT

The invention relates to compositions, methods and kits for the PCR-based
5 detection of bacterial species. Methods are provided for increasing the specificity of a
PCR-based bacterial assay. More specifically, primer sets and PCR-based assays are
provided that amplify and detect conserved 16S rRNA gene sequences from multiple
Mycoplasma species. The invention also provides kits for performing those assays, and
compositions comprising oligonucleotide primers useful in those assays.